

Contents

Preface	11
1 Preliminaries	15
1.1 Manifolds	15
1.2 Vectors	17
1.3 Tangent vectors	18
1.4 Parameterisation	19
1.5 Notation for forms	20
1.6 Cross product	20
1.7 Determinants	21
1.7.1 The determinant of a 1×1 matrix	21
1.7.2 The determinant of a 2×2 matrix	22
1.7.3 The determinant of a 3×3 matrix	23
1.7.4 The determinate of an $n \times n$ matrix, where $n > 3$	24
2 What are differential forms?	25
2.1 0-forms	26
2.2 1-forms	26
2.2.1 The meaning of dx^i	28
2.2.2 How this works – basis 1-forms and basis vectors	28
2.2.3 dx^i picks out a vector's i th component	30
2.2.4 An example using polar coordinates	31
2.2.4.1 Calculating the basis vectors and 1-forms	31
2.2.4.2 Tangent vectors to a circle	33
2.2.5 Curves	34
2.2.6 The differential df revisited	35
2.2.6.1 $df(\mathbf{v})$ as an approximation to Δf	36
2.2.6.2 Vectors as differential operators	38
2.2.7 Another 1-form example	41
2.3 2-forms	42
2.3.1 The wedge product	43
2.3.2 2-forms acting on two vectors	46
2.3.3 2-form example	49
2.3.4 Surfaces	49
2.4 3-forms and higher	50
2.4.1 3-forms acting on three vectors	51
2.4.2 3-form example	54
2.4.3 Three and higher dimensional spaces	54

3	Converting between differential forms and vectors	57
3.1	0-forms	57
3.2	1-forms	57
3.3	2-forms	58
3.4	3-forms	59
4	Differentiation	61
5	Div, grad and curl	65
5.1	Gradient and 0-forms	65
5.2	Curl and 1-forms	65
5.3	Divergence and 2-forms	67
5.4	A couple of vector identities	68
6	Orientation	69
7	Integrating differential forms	75
7.1	Change of variables	76
7.1.1	The pullback	79
7.2	Defining the integral	82
7.2.1	k -form integrated over a k -dimensional manifold in \mathbb{R}^n , where $k < n$	82
7.2.2	n -form integrated over an n -dimensional manifold in \mathbb{R}^n	84
7.2.3	The recipe	86
7.2.4	Some examples	86
7.3	Independence of parameterisation	92
7.3.1	Parameterised curves	92
7.3.2	Parameterised surfaces	93
8	Integrating differential forms and vector calculus	95
8.1	Line integrals	96
8.1.1	Conservative vector fields	98
8.1.2	And with differential forms	99
8.2	Surface integrals	100
8.2.1	And with differential forms	103
8.3	Volume integrals	105
8.3.1	And with differential forms	106
9	The generalised Stokes' theorem	107
9.1	The gradient theorem	108
9.1.1	Generalised Stokes' theorem	109
9.2	Green's theorem	110
9.2.1	Generalised Stokes' theorem	111
9.3	Stokes' theorem	112
9.3.1	Generalised Stokes' theorem	113

9.4	Divergence theorem	114
9.4.1	Generalised Stokes' theorem	115
10	Maxwell's equations	117
10.1	The vector calculus approach	117
10.2	The differential forms approach	120
10.2.1	The Hodge star operator	120
10.2.2	Moving on	121
10.2.3	Gauss's law for magnetism and Faraday's law	122
10.2.4	Gauss's law and the Ampère-Maxwell law	124
11	Three nice results from topology	127
11.1	The drum theorem	131
11.2	The Brouwer fixed-point theorem	133
11.3	The hairy ball theorem	135
11.3.1	Proof of Equation (11.3.2)	139
	Bibliography	143
	Index	145